

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 MEXICO 09407 060147Z

21

ACTION SWF-01

INFO OCT-01 AF-04 ARA-06 EA-06 EUR-08 NEA-06 RSC-01 ISO-00

AGR-05 AID-05 EB-04 IO-04 COME-00 TRSE-00 OIC-02

STR-01 CIEP-01 OMB-01 OES-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03

H-01 INR-05 L-01 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 /098 W

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R 060034Z NOV 74

FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4686

INFO AMEMBASSY ROME

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EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR/MX

SUBJECT: ECHEVERRIA TO ATTEND WORLD FOOD CONFERENCE

REF: MEXICO 9303

BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED

1. CONFIRMING RUMORS REPORTED REFTEL, PRES. ECHEVERRIA YESTERDAY FORMALLY ASKED CONGRESSIONAL APPROVAL FOR TRAVEL PLANS WHICH WOULD TAKE HIM TO ROME AND WORLD FOOD CONFERENCE NOVEMBER 11-13. IN HIS MESSAGE TO CONGRESS, ECHEVERRIA SAID HE INTENDED TO REAFFIRM HIS EARLIER PROPOSAL TO UPGRADE FAO POWER AND FACULTIES TO PERMIT IT TO TAKE "IMMEDIATE AND EFFECTIVE MEASURES" TO COMBAT WIDENING HUNGER. HE WOULD ALSO PROMOTE HIS PLAN TO FORM WORLD BANK FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH, AS WELL AS ISSUE YET ANOTHER CALL FOR SUPPORT FOR HIS CHARTER OF ECONOMIC RIGHTS AND DUTIES.

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PAGE 02 MEXICO 09407 060147Z

3. ELABORATING ON THE IMPORTANCE OF THE ROME MEETINGS,

ECHEVERRIA TOLD CONGRESS THAT "HUNGER, INFLATION, ENERGY CRISIS, AND VIOLENCE ARE ALL RESULTS OF A WORLD SYSTEM BASED ON EXPLOITATION, WHICH HAS PARADOXICALLY ASSOCIATED SCARCITY WITH WASTE AND INEQUITY, AND WHICH IS NOW STRAINING THE CEMENT WHICH HOLDS OUR CIVILIZATION TOGETHER." AFTER INSISTING THAT THE ROME CONFERENCE SHOULD ANALYZE THE ROOTS OF THESE PROBLEMS, ECHEVERRIA SAID HE WOULD CALL URGENTLY FOR A PROGRAM TO ACHIEVE "GENUINE TRANSFORMATION OF PRESENT WORN-OUT STRUCTURES WHICH CONTROL THE WORLD'S ECONOMY."

END UNCLASSIFIED

3. COMMENT: WHETHER OR NOT ECHEVERRIA ASPIRES TO BECOME DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF FAO ON COMPLETION OF HIS TERM OF OFFICE (REFTEL, HIS APPEARANCE BEFORE WORLD FOOD CONFERENCE IS ENTIRELY CONSONANT WITH CURRENT POLITICAL THEMES WITHIN MEXICO. AGRICULTURAL AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT HAVE IN PAST FEW WEEKS HERE BECOME THE NEW REVOLUTIONARY CHALLENGES, JUSTIFYING SUCH DIVERSE MOVES AS STIFF NEW TAXES ON BEER AND GASOLINE AND ABANDONMENT OF MEXICO'S BID FOR A NEW BRACERO AGREEMENT WITH US. IN THIS CASE, A MOOD OF BOOT-STRAPS NATIONALISM AT HOME, AIMED AT REDUCING MEXICO'S DEPENDENCE ON IMPORTS OF BASIC FOODSTUFFS, PLUS AN OPPORTUNITY TO IDENTIFY WITH THIRD WORLD CALLS FOR RESTRUCTURING GLOBAL ECONOMIC MACHINERY, CLEARLY MAKE ROME CONFERENCE A BULLY PULPIT FOR ECHEVERRIA.  
BRANDIN

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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Draft Date:** 06 NOV 1974  
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**TAGS:** EAGR, MX, (ECHEVERRIA)  
**To:** STATE  
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